



Washington, D. C. 20505

Executive Registry

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1563/2

7 August 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: William F. Martin
Executive Secretary
National Security Council

Bill,

I thought you might like to have a bootleg copy of the attached. As we have discussed, I know that you, too, hope to sort out some of these problems. From my point of view, the solution is fairly simple, as I have outlined herein.



Executive Secretary

Attachment:
As stated

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Washington, D. C. 20505

Executive Registry

85-

1563/1

7 August 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Donald A. Clarey
Associate Director
Office of Cabinet Affairs

SUBJECT: Economic and Domestic Policy Council Meetings

I want to thank you for the last minute assistance you provided a few weeks ago regarding the DCI's attendance at the DPC meeting on retirement legislation and the flat-rate per diem. We had equities in both subjects and the Director was able to state our position.

Unfortunately, we are still having problems, and I earnestly solicit your help. For whatever reason, we often find out late--if at all--about such meetings. This is especially true of EPC meetings. Today's meeting is a case in point. Early yesterday morning, the Director's personal secretary received a call asking if he were going to attend the EPC meeting on trade policy. She knew nothing about it and, quite properly, contacted me. (It is my responsibility to advise the Director of all such meetings, including whether his attendance is necessary or appropriate). I had no record of any such meeting being scheduled. There then ensued a frantic round of telephone calls (to your office, the EPC Secretariat and the NSC Secretariat) to find out what was going on. I was finally able to ascertain that such a meeting was to take place at 1330 today in the Cabinet Room. I was also told that papers for this meeting would be sent out of your office yesterday afternoon. (This never happened and the papers did not arrive until 1600 today! The Director's representative had to borrow a set after he arrived.)

As we discussed earlier, the previous system worked very well. That is to say, the Cabinet Office faithfully provided us advanced notice of all Cabinet and Cabinet Council meetings by telephone, and followed up with a copy of all relevant papers 48 hours in advance (these were transmitted by your distribution sheet with CIA listed as info). Thus, we were able to look at the schedule and proposed agenda, determine whether the DCI or his representative should attend, and then notify your office. Unfortunately, this has become unglued.

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Regarding the EPC, agreement has been reached on the value of Agency participation. But this can't occur unless we learn of the meetings in a timely fashion. As a good working relationship exists between your office and mine, I would hope that this mechanism can be used for EPC and DPC meetings as well as Cabinet meetings. One bit of confusion that could be eliminated is the direct calls to the DCI's personal secretary by someone in the EPC and/or DPC secretariats--let's keep the calls between your office and mine.

I wish you luck in getting control of this process. It is sorely needed. If there is anything that I can do on this end to help, please let me know.



Executive Secretary

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